

Lawyers’ convention terms amendments ‘direct assault on basic structure of Constitution’

Fears proposed 27th Amendment will completely destroy Supreme Court, other state institutions and civilian supremacy; it is bound to create ‘puppet’ constitutional courts

By Our Staff Correspondent

HYDERABAD: A convention of lawyers held in the auditorium of High Court Bar Association (HCBA) on Saturday rejected the 26th and 27th amendments.

It termed the amendments a direct assault on basic structure of the Constitution.

“The amendments violate civilian supremacy, rule of law, independence of judiciary, fundamental rights of citizens, balance of power between state organs and federation and provincial autonomy, a resolution issued on a letter-head of the HCBA said.

The document bears signatures of newly-elected members of the Sindh Bar Council (SBC) and office-bearers of Mirpurkhas and Karachi Bar Associations, as well as HCBA General Secretary Israr Chang.

The resolution also men-

tions that the proposed 27th Amendment completely destroys civilian supremacy and is going to create ‘puppet’ constitutional courts’, practically destroying the Supreme Court.

It says that the proposed 27th Amendment seeks to create an office of the ‘field marshal / chief of defence forces’ and other services chiefs who will hold their offices for life and could not be removed by government.

These amendments are aimed at providing constitutional cover to military rule and eroding democratic safeguards and institutional integrity, it says.

The convention also rejected the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), observing that its formation and functioning bypass constitutional institutions and concentrate powers in unelected, non-transparent entities. The SIFC undermines parliamentary oversight, provincial jurisdic-

tion under Article 142 and Fourth Schedule, as well as democratic accountability, according to the resolution.

The convention discussed land allotments under the Green Pakistan Initiative and Corporate Farming, and resolved to oppose allocation of vast lands under the guise of environmental or economic development which threatened indigenous and agrarian communities. These initiatives violated provincial autonomy over land and agriculture, and lacked transparency and public consultation.

The resolution rejected attempts to usurp Sindh’s resources and heritage. It condemned all efforts aimed at exploiting Sindh’s natural resources and minerals, appropriate cultural and tourist sites, and undermining of Sindh’s historical identity and autonomy.

It said that such actions were unconstitutional, unjust and violative of the spirit of the Articles 172, 173 and 174 of the Constitution which protect provincial ownership and control over land and resources.

The convention urged all bar councils, bar associations, civil society and constitution defenders across Pakistan to unite against these unconstitu-

tional moves and stand firm for the rule of law, judicial independence and dignity of federation.

STP stands against 27th Amendment

The central committee of the Sindh Taraqqi-Pasand Party (STP) also has resolved to oppose the 27th Constitutional Amendment saying that the people of Sindh would not accept it if it undermined the province’s integrity, permanent interests and resources.

The decision was taken at the committee meeting, chaired by the party’s Chairman Dr Qadir Magsi on Saturday.

The meeting stressed that instead of pushing the country into a new crisis, the rulers should ensure constitutional, economic and political rights of federating units.

It said that federation’s survival and stability could not be ensured unless provinces were given full control over their resources and ownership of their own resources was recognised.

Dr Magsi said that the people of Sindh would fight against all such attempts. He said his party stood for democratic principles, provincial rights and protection of Constitution. He urged rulers to take steps in this direction and ensure national harmony, instead of taking irresponsible steps which could create economic crisis.

The meeting also discussed the party’s organisational matters. It was attended by Jam Abdul Fatah Samejo, Gulzar Soomro, Hyder Shahani and other senior leaders.

Sindh to introduce new water law

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Sindh government has decided to introduce a new Sindh Water Law based on the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and aligned it with the Sindh Water Policy 2023, officials said on Saturday.

The decision was announced during a meeting between Sindh Irrigation Minister Jam Khan Shoro and a World Bank delegation, where it was revealed that a

committee of irrigation department officials will finalise the draft of the law by next month.

Once completed, the proposed bill will be presented to the provincial cabinet and later to the Sindh Assembly for approval. “This law will be a milestone for equitable water distribution, improved management, and environmental protection in Sindh,” Mr Shoro stated.

The discussions also covered the formulation of the Sindh Strategic Water Plan and the institutional framework of the Hydro-Agro informatics (HAI) Programme.

Among those attending the meeting were Irrigation Secretary Zarif Iqbal Khero, Project Director Nazir Memon, and Additional Secretary Athar Behzad Memon.

The World Bank team included Water Resources Management Specialist Bekele Debele, François Onimus, and Zelalem Tesfaye Mekonnen.

Both sides reviewed progress on the Sindh Water and Irrigation Transformation Project and agreed to adhere strictly to the set timelines and work plan.

Bodies of three youths found hanging from tree

By Our Correspondent

MITHI: A pall of gloom enveloped the small town of Dano Dhandhal in Tharparkar district as soon as local residents saw bodies of three youths hanging from a tree in the Kolhi Mohallah on Saturday.

The youths were identified as Dhanji, Gautam and Jeram — aged

between 16 and 21 — and residents of the same locality inhabited by the Kolhi community.

According to Tharparkar SSP Shoaib Memon, there were no visible marks of violence on any of the three bodies.

Police took the bodies in their custody and transported them to the Nagarparkar Taluka Hospital for a postmortem examination.

The SSP said that although it seemed to be an incident of joint suicide, an investigation from different angles was underway to ascertain the actual cause of their death and a motive.

He told local reporters that facts would be shared with them once the postmortem and forensic reports were received and the investigation reached a conclusion.

Driver killed, cleaner hurt as two trailers collide near Kandhkot

By Our Correspondent

SUKKUR: A collision between two container-mounted trailers plying parallel to each other left one man dead and another injured along Kandhkot section of the Indus Highway on Saturday.

Eyewitnesses and police said that the colli-

sion occurred when drivers of the two trailers tried to save a car which had suddenly emerged in front of them. They said that the trailers caught fire, which caused intense damage to them and reduced their cargo to ashes.

Teams of Rescue-1122 and area police rushed to the spot and carried out rescue work but they

could only take out the charred body of one trailer driver, later identified as Wali Khan, a resident of Peshawar. Cleaner of the other trailer, Salman, had suffered serious injuries when he was rescued.

He and the driver’s body were shifted to the Kandhkot Civil Hospital. Salman was provided emergency treatment before he was referred to a major hospital in Rahim Yar Khan due to his critical condition.

Gul Khan, the cleaner of other trailer who suffered minor injuries in the accident, helped identify the deceased driver as he also hailed from Peshawar. He said they both were destined for Gujranwala after leaving Karachi.

Doctor stabs wife, flees

BADIN: A woman was critically injured when she was subjected to multiple strokes of a knife allegedly by her husband at their home on Cantt Road in the city, police said on Saturday.

They said Dr Niaz Junejo attacked his wife during a quarrel over some domestic issue on Friday night. A hunt was on to arrest him, the police said.

The woman was first rushed to the Indus (Civil) Hospital and then referred to the Hyderabad Civil Hospital, where she was under treatment.

—Correspondent

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COLLECTORATE OF CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT, QUETTA

The Collector, Collectorate of Customs Enforcement, Quetta intends to invite Tenders from firms/vendors through PPRA on E-PADS for the following work during financial year 2025-26:

Ser #	ITEMS	AMOUNT	Bid Security
1	SUPPLY OF STATIONERY	Five Million	2 % (Rs. 100,000)
2	COMPUTER STATIONERY	Two Million	2 % (Rs. 40,000)
3	UNIFORMS AND PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	Ninety Five Million	2 % (Rs. 1900,000)
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5	TRANSPORTAION OF GOODS	One Hundred Sixty Seven Million	2 % (Rs. 3,340,000)
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7	HOT AND COLD WEATHER CHARGES	Sixty Million	2 % (Rs. 1,200,000)

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i. Firms must have General Sales Tax Registration, National Tax Number (NTN), Balochistan Revenue Authority registered and should be on active taxpayer list (ATL) of FBR. The firm is also responsible to provide vendor number and bank account IBAN number etc on acceptance of bid.

ii. The intending firms must provide a list of its clients, relevant experience and past performance.

iii. The firms will provide an affidavit on a stamp paper of Rs.100/- duly attested by the Oath Commissioner to the effect that firms/vendors have never been black listed by any Government Department.

iv. The tender documents (s) can be obtained from Deputy Collector (Hqrs.), Collectorate of Customs Enforcement, Custom House Quetta on cash payment of Rs. 2000/- (non refundable) during office hours from 12:00 PM to 03:00 PM.

v. The procuring agency / Collectorate of Customs Enforcement, Quetta reserves the right to reject of any or all bids/proposals in accordance with Rule-33 of PPRA Rules 2004.

vi. As per Rules 36(a) PPRA Rules-2004 single stage two envelopes procedure will be adopted.

All interested firms/bidders must submit the proposals as per the under mentioned schedule.

Issuance of Tender Documents	18-11-2025 to 21-11-2025
Submission Closing Date & Time	27-11-2025 (12:00)
Opening Date & Time	27-11-2025 (12:00)

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